# CHATHAM TOWNSHIP NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE CHATHAM TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

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April/May 2014

#### TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

The <u>Chatham Township Committee</u> has had an active first quarter passing a number of ordinances and resolutions aimed at keeping taxes low and increasing communications and transparency with residents. For the **fourth year-in-a-row residents will see no increase in their local tax rate.** In addition, you are now able to view draft ordinances and resolutions, as well as videos of prior meetings on the Township website www.chathamtownship-nj.gov

**Join Us:** The Township Committee typically meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM at the Township Municipal Building located at 58 Meyersville Road. Committee meetings are also broadcast live on Comcast channel 29 and FiOS channel 26.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY



Potential Suspect Composite Sketch

Given the number of recent burglaries, please keep an eye out for any suspicious activity. **If you see something, say something** and report it to the Police immediately. Remember to call the <u>Police</u> if you will be away on vacation. Contact your district officer if you want them

to check to see if your home is secure and be sure to follow these useful tips:

- Make your home look occupied at all times.
- Leave interior lights on when you go out for the night and utilize exterior lighting or motion sensitive outdoor lighting.
- Lock your outside doors and windows before you leave the house or go to bed; use a door jam on a patio or deck doors.
- Keep valuables out of your master bedroom.
- Do not allow daily deliveries, such as mail and newspaper, to accumulate.
- If you are gone, have a neighbor pick up these items for you and arrange to have your lawn cut in the summer.
- You should maintain a detailed description, pictures and the serial numbers of all appliances, tools, radios, televisions, firearms, and other valuables you own.

#### **ALERT CHATHAM TOWNSHIP**

The Chatham Township Committee recently launched Alert Chatham Township Now! (ACT Now!)

a new campaign designed to increase the number of individuals and local businesses registered for the Township's Emergency & Community Alert System.



Read more about this initiative <u>here</u> or register and manage your existing profile <u>here</u>.

### **PHOTO OF THE MONTH**



Great Swamp Reflections
Send <u>us</u> your Chatham Township-themed photo for possible inclusion in a future newsletter.

#### **RECREATION**



Go to the Chatham Recreation website to register for upcoming activities including a NEW cross country/track program, summer sports camps, tennis lessons, Par 3 golf permits and more. Visit www.chathamrecreation.org

#### **COLONY POOL**

Summer 2014 registration has begun for Colony Pool

a community resource for over 500 families and individuals from Chatham and surrounding towns. Register for summer



pool and tennis memberships, yoga and fitness classes and more <u>here.</u>

#### **DID YOU KNOW...**

The Township serves as the tax collector for the School District of the Chathams, Morris County Government and the local government.

Approximately 66 cents of every dollar collected goes to the School District, 17 cents goes to the County, 17 cents goes to the local government and ½ a cent goes to the Open Space Trust Account to preserve open spaces and to promote recreation.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

Be sure to come out on April 19<sup>th</sup> anytime between 9:30 – 12:30 for the **12th Annual Open Space Workday** at the Green Village Pond Conservation
Area on Green Village Rd adjacent to the Oak Knoll School sports fields. Learn more <a href="here">here</a>.

#### **SENIOR CENTER NEWS**

Rick Hartley will be starting Beginner Bridge lessons on Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 - 12:30. Classes are suitable for beginners, as well as those who want to familiarize themselves with modern bidding. Learn more and find other activities on the Senior Center website <u>here</u>.

#### **DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT**

The Department of Public Works is responsible for everything from plowing local roads, maintaining our parks and ball fields and ensuring Chatham Township remains a beautiful place to live. Did you know they will deliver mulch to your driveway for a fee of \$25.00 per load? Learn more here.

#### **FAQS**

Do you have a question regarding a Township



service, but don't know who to call for assistance? Click <u>here</u> to view important Township phone numbers.

## **VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT**



The Chatham Education Foundation is a leading provider of private funding to the School

District of the Chathams. Learn more here.

#### **HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Did you know Chatham Township was incorporated in 1806 and included the areas that are now the Boroughs of Chatham, Madison and Florham Park? It was named Chatham in honor of British Prime Minister William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, who had protested taxing the American colonists. Learn more here.

#### **COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

April - National Autism Awareness Month

April 5 – Tanglewood Lane Compost

**Center Opens** 

April 5 – Baseball opening day

April 6- Green Village Fire Department

5K 8:45 AM

April 8 - Child/infant car seat

<u>installation/inspection</u> 8-11 AM - Shunpike Field

April 10 - Township Committee Mtg.

April 11 – Curbside Recycling

April 12 - Softball opening day/Library Jazz Concert

April 13- Local leaders in the American Revolution -

**Historical Society** 

April 15 – Tax Day

April 17 - Zoning Board Mtg.

April 24 – Township Committee Mtg.

April 19 – 12th Annual Open Space Workday

April 24 - Library Film Showing - The Book Thief 7 PM

April 25 - Curbside Recycling

April 26 – Community Paper Shred

April 29 – Child/infant car seat installation/inspection

9 – 12 PM – Shunpike Field

May 1 – Property taxes due

May 3 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bicycle Rodeo – 9 AM – High School

Parking Lot - Rain date May 4th

May 4 - Memories of Green Village and Chatham

<u>Township – Historical Society</u>

May 6 – Child/infant car seat installation/inspection

9 – 12 PM – Shunpike Field

May 7 – Senior Center Formal Tea

May 8 - Township Committee Mtg.

May 9 – Curbside Recycling

May 11 – Mother's Day

May 15 – Zoning Board Mtg.

May 22 - Township Committee Mtg.

May 23 - Curbside Recycling

May 23 - Vehicle inspections - 9 - 1 PM - Nash Field

May 26 – Memorial Day

May 27 - Child/infant car seat installation/inspection

9 -12 PM - Shunpike Field

May 31 - Relay for Life - Haas Field

View the Township calendar <u>here</u>, which includes additional Committee/Board meeting dates.

<u>The Chatham Township Committee</u> consists of Mayor Kevin Sullivan, Deputy Mayor Curt Ritter, Kathy Abbott, Bailey Brower, Jr. and Robert Gallop.